

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1 (Previously presented). A method for reducing fouling of a surface with aquatic organisms, wherein said method comprises applying, to a surface exposed to an aquatic environment, a compound that inhibits the attachment of aquatic organisms to the surface; wherein the compound comprises a first cyclic structure and a second cyclic structure; wherein the first cyclic structure comprises a first carbon atom adjacent to a nitrogen atom and the nitrogen atom also adjacent to a second carbon atom, wherein a double bond attaches the first carbon atom and the nitrogen atom; wherein the second cyclic structure comprises a pyridyl group; and wherein the first cyclic structure is attached to the second cyclic structure at one of the carbons adjacent to the nitrogen.

2 (Previously presented). The method, according to claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of 2,3'-bipyridyl; 2,2'-bipyridyl; anabaseine; 3-benzylidene-anabaseine; 3-cinnamylidene-anabaseine; myosmine; nicotelline; nemertelline; 1,9-phenanthroline; 4'-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; 5'-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; 6'-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; 3-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; 4-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; 5-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; 6-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; and salts thereof.

3 (Original). The method, according to claim 1, wherein said compound is applied in a form selected from the group consisting of paints, stains, sealants, glazes, varnishes, coatings, coverings and glosses.

4 (Original). The method, according to claim 1, wherein said surface is selected from the group consisting of boat hulls, docks, buoys, locks, water intake pipes, drainage pipes, fish cages and jetties.

5 (Original). The method, according to claim 1, wherein said aquatic organism is selected from the group consisting of barnacle larvae and zebra mussel.

6 (Cancelled).

7 (Currently amended). A composition useful for reducing fouling of surfaces exposed to aquatic environments, wherein said composition can be applied as a coating to a surface and said composition comprises a compound and a surface treatment suitable for surfaces exposed to aquatic environments; wherein the compound comprises a first cyclic structure and a second cyclic structure; wherein the first cyclic structure comprises a first carbon atom adjacent to a nitrogen atom and the nitrogen atom also adjacent to a second carbon atom, wherein a double bond attaches the first carbon atom and the nitrogen atom; wherein the second cyclic structure comprises a pyridyl group; and wherein the first cyclic structure is attached to the second cyclic structure at one of the carbons adjacent to the nitrogen.

8 (Currently amended). The composition according to claim 7, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of 2,3'-bipyridyl; 2,2'-bipyridyl; anabaseine; 3-benzylidene-anabascine; 3-cinnamylidene-anabaseine; myosmine; nicotelline; nemertelline; 1,9-phenanthroline; 4'-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; 5'-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; ~~6'-Me2,3'-bipyridyl~~ 6'-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; 3-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; 4-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; 5-Me2,3'-bipyridyl; 6-Me2,3'-bipyridyl, and salts thereof.

9 (Previously presented). The composition, according to claim 7 wherein said surface treatment is selected from the group consisting of paints, stains, sealants, glazes, varnishes, coatings, coverings and glosses.

10-22 (cancelled).